

SWISS FEARFUL OF INVASION BY GERMAN FORCE

Little Republic Threatened With Fate of Belgium

HINDENBURG LAYS PLANS

May Hurl Great Force Against French Right Flank, Disregarding Neutrality

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS

ZURICH, Switzerland, Feb. 13. After Belgium is Switzerland's turn next?

Hindenburg is massing troops against the French right flank with vast stores of ammunition with many guns.

The people here are asking whether the treaty of 1815 will be the next "scrap of paper."

Germans in Zurich are openly boasting that Ludendorff could smash the Swiss army in forty-eight hours.

PRUSSIAN BRAG OF POWER

The Prussians, while gorging themselves on little republics, brag they could occupy this city the first day.

They declare Switzerland's 1500 machine guns, sixteen six-inch cannons, eighty batteries of three-inch guns, and small stock of ammunition are insufficient to cause much trouble.

They say there are only 100,000 troops under colors, and that of these but 45,000 are on the German border, which could be swept aside and France entered before the remainder of the Swiss could be mobilized.

The consensus of opinion of persons I have talked to is that if Hindenburg does not attempt to cross Switzerland in an effort to turn the French flank it will be because he considers it strategically unwise.

INVASION FULLY PLANNED

I am told the Germans have planned the invasion to the last detail; even skeleton governments for the cantons (Swiss States) exist.

At the trial of a number of suspected spies at Vevey documents placed in evidence named a certain tailor as the Mayor of a town upon Prussian occupation.

Today Switzerland is struggling valiantly not only to maintain its neutrality, but for independence itself.

German agents are threatening the stability of the revolution, hoping the revolution will spread into Italy and France.

The Prussians boast the German people are better disciplined than the rest of the world; that if revolutionary doctrines are scattered broadcast other nations will succumb, while Germany will remain unscathed.

PRUSSIAN AGENTS AT WORK

Switzerland is swarming with agents of the Prussian war party. Discussing the question of what the Russian Bolshevik movement could have hoped to accomplish in Switzerland, France, Italy, England and even America.

"A great revolutionary wave, coming from the Orient and crossing Germany, is now swelling at the foot of the Alps, Concord, methodical international agitators are growing in other cities. These tend to provoke by violence a revolution which, from Switzerland, England and even America, will sweep across the continent."

The paper is one of the most substantial in Europe. The warning was prompted by sensational developments in the last few weeks throughout Germany.

GROUNDHOG MISTAKEN; ROBINS ARE ON THE JOB

Mild Weather to Continue, Says Weatherman, 'Mid Signs of Early Spring

It begins to look as if B'er Groundhog made a serious mistake on February 3 when he crawled back into his little hole in the ground just because Old Sol reflected his shadow. For the last four days the ancient superstition of the groundhog and his six weeks of extra severe winter weather has been shattered, it has been so warm, and as far ahead as the Philadelphia forecaster can see, it is to continue warm.

Real springtime weather is due to stay while, at least, for the first heralds of the gentle season have made their way as far north as the suburbs of Philadelphia. On the Main Line this morning commuters reported the first robin and the first snowfall.

To support the arrival of the warm weather heralds the weatherman said today and tomorrow would continue to be fair and bright, the highest temperatures about the same as yesterday's high point of 55.

LUGGING SCHOOL BOOKS DANGER TO CHILDHOOD

Campaign Begun to Stop Practice and Overcome Tendency to Round Shoulders

A campaign to prevent public-school children from carrying more books than they actually need to and from their homes and between classrooms is being inaugurated by William Stecher, director of physical education. This was begun today in the "Warrior T. Steel Public School, Sixth and Chestnut streets."

"A child delights in carrying a number of books and as many other possessions as can be suggested around him," said one of the physical directors. "This results in children becoming round-shouldered. We are launching a campaign to stop this practice. Each teacher is to select every child in the class carries only the books that are absolutely necessary."

LIMIT SUGAR PRICE TO 8 1-2 CENTS POUND

Maximum for Eggs 67 Cents—May Fluctuate Up to Marks Set by Jay Cooke

Prices for eggs and sugar may fluctuate in the future, but not beyond 67 cents a dozen for eggs and 8 1/2 cents a pound for sugar, or 9 cents a carton. This is the latest mandate of County Food Administrator Jay Cooke and he says that it's going to be lived up to from now on.

Hawaiian sugars are virtually off the market. The prices quoted by the food administration are on Cuban sugars, which, with the Louisiana products, will from now on constitute the bulk of the sugar supply of the country.

JOHN D. ASKS FOUR DEPUTIES Needed to Protect Pocomantic Hills Home, He Tells Sheriff

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—John D. Rockefeller has asked for four special deputy sheriffs to guard his grounds and the home of his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., at Pocomantic Hills, R. M. Egan, superintendent for Mr. Rockefeller, has requested for Mr. Sheriff Wissendanger assigned Mr. Rockefeller four deputies as special deputies three years ago. These are expected with Mr. Wissendanger's retirement from office six weeks ago.

It was said at the time the deputies were assigned that the Pocomantic Hills are a special suburb for Mr. Rockefeller's family.

"POLAR BEARS" PLAN DIP

Policemen to Take Plunge Into Ocean's icy Waters

Policemen Thomas Bradley and John Lawler, the two "polar bears" of the Fifteenth and Locust streets station, are making plans to take a plunge in the icy waters of the Atlantic, and for that purpose will accompany to Atlantic City on Sunday. They expect to be in the water bright and early Monday morning.

GARFIELD AGAIN DELAYS

Report He Will Revoke Monday Order Late Today

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Fue! Administrator Garfield's formal order discontinuing heatless Mondays was again deferred today.

It is not yet possible to announce the object of the American firm, but the bombardment entirely accomplished its purpose.

UNCLE SAM TO RAISE PAY

Horizontal Increases for All Government Employees in Prospect

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Horizontal increases in pay for all Government employees will be carried in a bill soon to be drafted by the House appropriation committee, Chairman Shelley said today. The increases will probably range from 10 to 20 per cent.

ROOSEVELT PROGRESSING

Condition Continues to Improve, Doctors Are Cheered

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—Colonel Roosevelt's condition continues to improve. His physicians today said they were greatly cheered over the progress he is making.

AUSTRIANS MAY RENOUNCE TEUTON JUNKERS TO MEET UNITED STATES' DEMANDS

President Will Make Peace With Dual Monarchy Only in Case People Break With German Militarists

Possibility of Separate Pact With Vienna Strong, Washington Believes, and Wilson's Address Is Considered Invitation to Masses of Kaiser's Ally

By JOHN H. HEARLEY

ROME, Feb. 13. Pope Benedict welcomes President Wilson's latest address to the enemy and the world as "nourishing the peace seed, which is already sprouting," it was learned in Vatican circles today.

The Vatican believes the responsibility has now squarely put up to German militarism, which must answer the President's declarations. The Pope confidently expects early replies, especially from Austrian Foreign Minister Czernin.

By ROBERT J. BENDER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13. Peace between the United States and Austria can come only when the Austrian people break with the German Junkers.

Possibility of such peace is strong. To drive home the former statement while convinced of the latter one, President Wilson made his momentous address to Congress, the United Press can state semi-officially today.

The President wants the Austrian people to know that this is not a swashbuckling nation. His address was designed to answer the peace feeling spreading throughout the world and at the same time to serve notice on the German Junkers that America is not gulled by the vagaries of Von Hertling.

In seeking a definite interpretation of the President's message, the United Press sought also to clear up doubt as to whether or not it was fundamentally a peace or war message. It was both.

The President is more than ever determined to wage the war to a successful termination, but all times he is prepared to meet the Teuton peoples in negotiations for peace.

A separate peace with Austria can come if she will break with Germany. He will not deal with the German Junkers. The German people must break away from the absolute control of Von Hindenburg and Ludendorff. They need not dethrone their Kaiser, who is regarded by the President as a tool in the hands of the militarists, but they must inaugurate electoral reforms such as will assure this Government's dealing with the people of Germany, not the Junkers.

There must be no armistice with the German military party—a peace that merely would allow it to prepare for another war. Strong-arm methods in Germany must yield to democratization.

As for details of the other bases for peace, the President is willing to be shown if his views are not the most practicable.

UNDER TWO FIRMS

The German-controlled Austrian Government is under two firms—the demands of the people for peace and the demands of the German Junkers for continuation of the war. That the people in the end will win is the conviction of the President.

The German militarists must eventually break under the destruction of their false promises. They ridiculed the American army—but that was before they saw that this country is preparing for a year's expedition, but for a war that will last indefinitely to win their aims. The Austrian people after

the President made his last war aims speech to Congress demanded strongly the throwing off of the Junker interference. For a time it looked as if they would win. Certain wavered between the crossroads and then yielded once more to the Germans.

But once again the President has struck out to show the Austrians the futility of their alliance. And his message might have been abandoned to read: "Break away from Germany—and the democracy of America will receive you stand by Germany and you must take it."

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AMERICAN GUNS SCORE TRIUMPH

Violent Night Bombardment of Enemy's Lines Accomplishes Purpose

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Feb. 13 (Delayed). American artillery triumphed over the Germans in the gun duel which began with yesterday's blood-red sunset, and continued until today's dawn.

It is not yet possible to announce the object of the American firm, but the bombardment entirely accomplished its purpose.

All night long the sky flickered and flared as the gun flashes danced like will-o'-the-wisps up and down the horizon.

RUMANIANS WILL BATTLE TILLEN; GERMANY DEFIED

Teuton Ultimatum Demanding Immediate Peace Is Ignored

TRUST IN THE ALLIES

Though Surrounded by Foes, Troops Occupy Bessarabia. Disarm 300,000 Slavs

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—Rumania has ignored Germany's twenty-four-hour ultimatum "to conclude immediate peace."

According to a message flashed by wireless from Jassy to Salonica and relayed by cable today to Dr. Constantin Armandulescu, Rumanian Minister here, Rumania's "dreadful and ignominious" Germany's threat and "will survive or perish with the Allied cause."

With Teuton divisions on one side, the Bolsheviks on the other, and many miles away from a friendly force, King Ferdinand's plucky nation is fighting harder today than ever before, according to official dispatches received here.

WILL BEGIN RACE BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED YARDS

ADMIRAL BOWLES HAPPY

The keels of four steel merchant ships will be laid at the yard of the Merchants Shipbuilding Corporation, at Bristol, within a few days, it was announced today by Rear Admiral Francis Bowles, managing director of the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

This work, coming close behind the laying of the first keel at the Hog Island shipyard of the American International Shipbuilding Corporation, signifies the beginning of a race between Philadelphia's two great Government-controlled shipyards to turn out ships to win the war.

A glowing tribute to the accomplished fact at Bristol was paid by Admiral Bowles, following his inspection of the plant yesterday.

"It was a big job to complete in five months," he said. "The work was creditable at every point. It makes possible the laying of four keels within a very few days. I can give no specific details, but every detail was perfect."

Admiral Bowles refrained from making invidious comparisons between the results achieved at Bristol and those at the much-bused Hog Island yard; but he did not deny that there had been much greater progress in the "Upper Delaware" shipyard than at Hog Island.

"This may be due to the fact that the Bristol operation was started first," he said. "Perhaps work was conducted there under greater advantages."

"Would it not have been better," he was asked, "if the Government had picked out more Bristol and fewer Hog Islands?"

"NO CRYING OVER SPILLED MILK"

"That," he replied, "is a matter of judgment. There is no good in talking about spilled milk. Get the ships built and stop talking. The shipbuilding program. We will never help things by thrashing over old straw."

Admiral Bowles was asked if there were not considerable "tagging" and "tagging" in the laying of the keel at Hog Island, which was prominently mentioned by George J. Baldwin.

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RAIN FLOODS BUFFALO

Rowboats Used in Streets—Fishermen Rescued From Ice Floes

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 13.—Rain and melting snow flooded more than a square mile of the city. The water in more than twenty streets flooded furniture-ground on the first floor of hundreds of homes and rowboats became the only means of transportation.

A Woodland Beach party today nearly 100 fishermen were rescued from an ice floe which had broken loose from the south shore of Lake Erie. Five of the fishermen were rescued from a smaller floe, were brought in by the coast guard in a powerboat.

AVIATOR EXPECTED TO DIE

Son of General March, Injured Yesterday, in Serious Condition

PORT WORTH, Tex., Feb. 13.—The death of Lieutenant Peyton C. March, Jr., injured last yesterday when his airplane crashed a thousand feet to earth, was expected momentarily today, according to base hospital authorities, Hicks Field. His skull was crushed.

Mrs. John Milliken, of Washington, D. C., was reported en route to the bedside. Lieutenant March is the son of Major General Peyton C. March, who is to become chief of staff.

QUICK NEWS

HAYS UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED G. O. P. CHAIRMAN

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 13.—Will H. Hays, Indiana, was unanimously elected chairman of the Republican National Committee this afternoon. No other name was placed before the committee.

CITY'S P. R. T. COMPLAINT BEFORE COMMISSION

HARRISBURG, Feb. 13.—Complaint of the city of Philadelphia against the services of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company will be taken up by the Public Service Commission late this afternoon.

KEELS OF 4 STEEL SHIPS SOON TO BE LAID AT BRISTOL

Will Begin Race Between Two Government-Controlled Yards

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ADAMS WITHDRAWS; HAYS TO LEAD G. O. P.

Iowan Will Nominate Indiana Man for National Chairman, Insuring Election

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 13. John T. Adams, of Iowa, today announced his withdrawal from the contest for chairman of the Republican National Committee. He will place Will H. Hays, of Indiana, in nomination this afternoon. "This assures the election of Hays."

Previous to this announcement backers of both Hays and Adams held a caucus. Adams was in attendance. The situation was canvassed from all sides but just what led to the withdrawal of Adams was not divulged.

Hays is the candidate of the Perkin-Peterson, of Pennsylvania, joined his forces with Perkins and du Pont. Thereafter Hays's stock rose appreciably and it became apparent even to those not on the inside that Adams could not win.

Sharper and counter-charges of pro-Germanism flew thick and fast in the morning hours. The latest fling was at Hays, Elias D. Salisbury, of Indianapolis, chairman of the Progressive State Committee, telegraphed every member of the committee charging that the Hays progressive organ in Indiana catered to the German vote.

Salisbury's wire said: "In Indiana the progressive pretensions of Will H. Hays is a joke. He did not and cannot bring the progressive vote back. In 1915 the Hays organ catered to the German vote and with it carried Indiana. Indiana progressives will not approve of such practices and will never stand for the Hays-Goodrich-Hemmingway-Keating leadership. Outsiders may be fooled by their pretensions, but the boys at home know when."

TIMES BUILDING, CITY LANDMARK, IS FIRE-SWEPT

Blaze of Mysterious Origin Wrecks Structure at 8th and Chestnut Sts.

MAN SLIDES DOWN ROPE

Thrilling Escapes of Tenants as Flames Eat Up \$25,000 in Their Rapid Spread

TIMES BUILDING FIRE FACTS

ORIGIN—In office of firm engaged on Government contract, 35-story structure. Passers-by say they heard explosion. Occupants of building and fire marshals deny explosion.

INSURANCE—Fully covered. OWNER—C. F. Ruppel, Fifth and Cherry streets, leather manufacturer.

REASON FOR FOUR ALARMS—Low water pressure and shortage of firemen.

ESCAPES—C. M. Wessels slid down rope to sidewalk. Insiders Sagovsky and clerks ran for lives after receiving \$100,000 worth of diamonds. Minutes from roof endangered firemen. Tower almost east wall threatened to fall at any moment.

A spectacular four-alarm fire swept the upper portion of the old Times Building, Eighth and Chestnut streets, this morning. Starting at about 8 o'clock in the rear of the second floor where Eugene Dietzgen has been doing Government work on drawing instruments, the fire raced up a dumb water shaft and in less than five minutes the third, fourth and fifth floors of the building were blazing.

Much mystery is aroused by the fact that the fire started in a plant doing Government work. Persons passing at the time of the fire discovered that they heard an explosion, but it could not be verified. No chemicals or other explosives or inflammable material were in the office, it was said, and it is believed that the fire was of incendiary origin.

TWO VIEWS AS TO ORIGIN

Assistant Fire Marshal G. Iglauer denies that the fire was due to an explosion. He seemed anxious to dispel any rumors that the fire was of incendiary origin. He said that his examination of the premises indicated the fire started in a toilet in the rear hall of the second floor. The fire started in the office of Eugene Dietzgen, who is doing Government work on drawing instruments, the fire raced up a dumb water shaft and in less than five minutes the third, fourth and fifth floors of the building were blazing.

Reserve Officer Victor Crawford says that when he arrived in the hall of the building the flames were coming through the glass door of one of Dietzgen's offices, the whole door and interior of the room being in flames. The door was not broken from the outside.

Crawford said that so far as he knew Dietzgen's manager was not at the office yesterday, it being Lincoln's Birthday. The manager wanted to leave Jersey and drives in every day, but was not seen about the place until this morning.

Gallagher stated that it seemed to him that the fire was started by a fire alarm work he would have fired the Dietzgen factory, which is located in New Jersey, and not the little office here.

TENANTS LOSE PROPERTY

The occupants of the building were all fleeing. C. M. Wessels, fourth floor, where he also lived in a rear apartment. His losses were a shoe plant, valuable paintings and objects of art, which were all destroyed.

Eugene Dietzgen, second floor, maker of drawing instruments for the Government, where the fire was discovered, lost furniture and valuable records.

United Cigar Stores Company, ground floor, lost plight, mostly from the fire.

The Philadelphia Jewelry Exchange, located on the second floor, where the company and a billiard hall in the basement.

TOWER THREATENS TO FALL

Much concern was caused by the fact that the tower surmounting the building listed dangerously and the Chestnut street wall also sagged badly. Employees of the Gates Candy Store, Saratoga-Inviting hat store, American Typewriter Machine Company store, Hollander-Eckman Company and C. J. Junction cigar store, tenants of Chestnut street portions of the building, were ordered out of those establishments.

Wreckers subsequently began removal of the ruined tower as soon as the metal supports cooled sufficiently to permit them to work. The firemen did not leave the building until after noon.

Before the arrival of a crew of wreckers from Otto J. Fuchs's establishment, 130 South Fifteenth street, firemen directed a high pressure cross fire at the tower but it failed to bring it down.

Occupants and others who claimed to know say that the loss to building and contents will exceed the \$25,000 estimate made by the owner. The upper floors and tower are gone, while the lower floors are damaged by debris and water.

The sign on the Royal Shoe Store across the street from the southeast corner, caught fire early but was soon extinguished.

The building, which is a landmark of the city, was owned by H. C. Tamm, leather goods manufacturer, of Fifth and Cherry streets, and its value is estimated at \$25,000. The agent for the building is J. A. Patterson, of 133 South Fifteenth street.

The rapidity with which the flames

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THE WEATHER

FORECAST

For Philadelphia and vicinity: Fair and slightly colder tonight, with maximum temperature about 45 degrees. Thursday fair; gentle winds, mostly northwesterly.

LENGTH OF DAY

Sun rises: 6:36 a.m. Sets: 6:58 p.m. DELAWARE RIVER FIVE MILES CHESTNUT STREET

High water: 2:35 a.m. Low water: 8:45 a.m. TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62

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